

## LOUISE MAYWOOD LATHAM

Louise Maywood Latham, born in Raleigh, is a cum laude graduate of Shaw University. Her Master's Degree is from Boston University, and she did additional graduate work at Syracuse University and at UNC-Greensboro. She taught in Washington High School, Raleigh, and was for a time on the staff of Howard University. Thereafter she returned to North Carolina to become, for some twenty years, Dean of Women at North Carolina Central University. There are a number of "firsts" in her life: she was the first black president of the North Carolina Association of Women Deans and Counselors, the first black and the first North Carolinian to be elected to national office with the National Association of Women Deans and Counselors. As Dean of Women at NCCU, she influenced thousands of young people, encouraging them to select educational goals that would lead them to self-directed lives. A many-sided person, she has also influenced many others through educational, religious, social, and political organizations from the community to the national level. To mention one of many examples, she was initiator and first president of "Women in Action for the Prevention of Violence and its Causes," an organization which with a federal grant established a counselling and tutoring center for young people who have dropped out or have been suspended or expelled from the public schools. This University is happy to recognize with this degree the long work and high achievement of Louise Latham in many areas.